

Sara Mead is an Associate Partner with Bellwether Education Partners, a non-profit organization working to improve educational outcomes for low-income students. In this role, she writes and conducts policy analysis on issues related to early childhood education and K-12 education reform and provides strategic advising support to clients serving high-need students. She has written extensively on education issues including federal and states education policy, charter schools, teacher effectiveness, and early childhood education. Her work has been featured in numerous media outlets including *The Washington Post*, *New York Times*, and *USA Today*, and she has appeared on CBS and ABC News and on NPR. Before joining Bellwether, she directed the New America Foundation's Early Education Initiative. She has also worked for Education Sector, the Progressive Policy Institute, and the U.S. Department of Education. She serves on the District of Columbia Public Charter School Board, which authorizes charter schools in the District of Columbia and holds them accountable for results, and on the board of Democrats for Education Reform. The daughter, granddaughter, and sister of public school educators, she holds a bachelor's degree in public policy from Vanderbilt University.